



# *Payómkawichum*

## Chámmakilawish Pechanga School

This beautiful mural was created by Chámmakilawish Pechanga School students, led by Principal Andrew Maisel and third grade teacher Amalika Jackson; the students' vision was to present a collection of ideas and concepts that represent the Luiseño people, culture, and life. The school consulted with Myra Maisel of Pechanga Cultural Resources and Vanessa Hogan of Tribal Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) to plan the artwork, representing Native life in the valley, both past, and present. Artist Junior Villalobos sketched out the mural, featuring the Great Oak Tree, an eagle, native plants, the Pechanga Casino, an automobile, and youth participating in traditional games and living in traditional Kíicha (homes). The mural was a true group effort, with every child (ages 3 to 10) adding to the artwork. The artists came from the Mommy & Me group, Pre-Kindergarten, and Kindergarten to Fifth Grade students, all adding bits of color and artistry to proudly represent their people, the Payómkawichum, which means the People of the West in the Pechanga language. It is the mission of the Chámmakilawish Pechanga School to ensure that each child develops a foundation for success through the development of healthy self-esteem by means of participating in a rich learning environment. The purpose of the Chámmakilawish Pechanga School has been clear since the school opened its doors, to teach tribal members culture and language without sacrificing other areas of education.